

John O. Norquist Mayor

Seth L. Foldy, MD Commissioner of Health

Bevan K. Baker, CHE Health Operations Director

**Health Department** 

Administration



Frank P. Zeidler Municipal Building, 841 North Broadway, 3rd Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3653 phone (414) 286-3521 fax (414) 286-5990 web site: www.milwaukee.gov

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## MILWAUKEE SELECTED AS ONE OF FIVE NATIONAL SITES FOR ADULT IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN

Community Partners and City of Milwaukee Health Department Sponsor Flu and Pneumonia Vaccine Clinic

The Health and Human Services Department has launched a new adult immunization program. The project will be referred to as the Racial and Ethnic Adult Disparities Immunization initiative (READII), which will work to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in influenza and pneumococcal vaccination coverage for adults 65 years of age and older. The initiative will target African American, Latino and other racial and ethnic minorities who show the widest gap in immunization rates. Through the implementation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and assistance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) will focus its efforts in building immunization awareness in communities most at risk. The MHD will serve as the primary contract agency for the project.

Along with Milwaukee, Chicago, IL; Mississippi; San Antonio, TX and Rochester, NY have been selected to participate in the READII project.

"More than 30,000 adults die each year from vaccine preventable diseases and this program will assist in reducing these staggering numbers." said Milwaukee Health Department Operations Director, Bevan K. Baker. "Continuing to build strong community partnerships will be key to the program's success."

In collaboration with local community partners such as the Walkers Point Medical Clinic, Healthcare for the Homeless and the Next Door Foundation, the MHD will hold a flu and pneumonia vaccine clinic. Details are as follows:

WHEN: Saturday, December 21, 2002

WHERE: Next Door Foundation

2545 North 29<sup>th</sup> Street (between Wright and Clarke Street)

TIME: 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For more information, contact:

Raquel Madrid-Berkel
Health Communications Officer
City of Milwaukee Health Department
Office: (414) 286 3475

Office: (414) 286-3175 Pager: (414) 318-5711